

City of Jacksonville Stimulus Package

Jacksonville City Council unanimously approved a \$159 million local stimulus package filed by Jacksonville Mayor Lenny Curry on Monday, April 27.

The allocation was funded from federal aid in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act in Congress (s. 3548). After Mayor Curry filed the legislation (2020-235), City Council passed it 19-0 during an emergency meeting.

The funding from the Jacksonville COVID-19 Relief Program includes the following:

- \$40 million in direct stimulus in individual payments of \$1,000 per household to eligible citizens of Duval County for Mortgage, Rent and Utility Relief Program grants (MRU Grants).
- More than \$35 million to set up and operating testing for at least six COVID-19 test sites and other healthcare infrastructure needs.
- \$25 million of COVID-19 economic stimulus to address economic impact. From this \$25 million, \$5 million will fund application fee waivers during a moratorium of up to six months and \$4 million will fund a moratorium of up to six months on mobility fees. The mobility fees may be either fully waived or partially waived at 50% under terms of the Ordinance. Miscellaneous development fees that may also be temporarily waived during the waiver include fees for new building, site clearing, electrical, plumbing, mechanical, plat review, site plan, rezoning, certificate of use, comprehensive plan amendments and more.
- \$20 million of grant funding for to nonprofit and for-profit businesses who have suffered economic loss due to COVID-19 and response measures.
- \$17 million to complete the funding for the COVID-19 Relief Program.
- \$12.5 million for a reimbursement from the federal government for anticipated costs from COVID-19 not anticipated to be paid for by FEMA or the State of Florida.
- \$9 million to provide reimbursement to the City of Jacksonville for a previously appropriated money from the general fund for the costs of the COVID-19 Relief Program.

Duval County residents are eligible for payments from the direct stimulus package of the legislation if they make less than \$75,000 per year, can show proof of employment on February 29, 2020, and can show a loss of at least 25% of their income because of COVID-19. Applicants will be required to sign an affidavit. The City of Jacksonville will release more details on how to apply to receive the funds, with a maximum of \$1,000 per household.

FIS, a Jacksonville-based Fortune 500 company, will assist with issuing the \$1,000 preloaded pay cards for residents approved in the program to ensure that recipients get the money as quickly as possible, and without having to absorb added fees.